

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ADLIFE MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS
COMPANY, INC.

Plaintiff,

- against -

KARNS PRIME AND FANCY FOOD LTD. and AD
POST GRAPHICS MEDIA MARKETING, INC.

Defendant.

Docket No.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Adlife Marketing & Communications Company, Inc. (“Adlife” or “Plaintiff”) by and through its undersigned counsel, as and for its Complaint against Karns Prime and Fancy Food Ltd. (“Karns Prime”) and Ad Post Graphics Media Marketing, Inc. (“Ad Post” and together with Karns Prime “Defendants”) hereby alleges as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action for copyright infringement under Section 501 of the Copyright Act. This action arises out of Defendants unauthorized reproduction and public display of copyrighted photographs of food, owned and registered by Adlife, an advertising agency specializing in design, digital marketing, print advertising and photograph. Accordingly, Adlife seeks monetary relief under the Copyright Act of the United States, as amended, 17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.*

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. This claim arises under the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.*, and this Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

3. Upon information and belief, this Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because Defendants resides and/or transacts business in Pennsylvania and are registered with the Pennsylvania Department of State Division of Corporations.

4. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b).

PARTIES

5. Adlife is an advertising agency specializing in design digital marketing, print advertising and photography having a usual place of business at 38 Church Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860.

6. Upon information and belief, Karns Prime is a domestic business corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, with a place of business at 675 Silver Spring Road, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050. Upon information and belief, Karns Prime is registered with the Pennsylvania State Department of Corporations to do business in Pennsylvania.

7. Upon information and belief, Ad Post a domestic business corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, with a place of business at 1501 Route 51, Jefferson Hills, PA 15025. Upon information and belief, Ad Post is registered with the Pennsylvania State Department of Corporations to do business in Pennsylvania.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

A. Background and Plaintiff's Ownership of the Photographs

8. Adlife is copyright holder of food photographs (the "Photographs"). A true and correct copy of the Photographs are attached hereto as Exhibit A.

9. Adlife has all times been the sole owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the Photographs, including the copyright there.

10. The Photographs were registered with United States Copyright Office. See Exhibit A.

B. Defendant's Infringing Activities

11. Karns Prime ran the Photographs on its weekly advertisements for their food products (the "Advertisements"). A true and correct copy of the Advertisements with the Photographs are attached hereto in Exhibit A.

12. Upon information and belief, Ad Post create the Advertisements for Karns Prime.

13. Defendants did not license the Photographs from Plaintiff, nor did Defendants have Plaintiff's permission or consent to publish the Photographs on its Advertisements.

CLAIM FOR RELIEF
(COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT AGAINST DEFENDANTS)
(17 U.S.C. §§ 106, 501)

14. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in Paragraphs 1-13 above.

15. Defendants infringed Plaintiff's copyright in the Photographs by reproducing and publicly displaying the Photographs on the Advertisements. Defendants are not, and have never been, licensed or otherwise authorized to reproduce, publically display, distribute and/or use the Photographs.

16. The acts of Defendants complained of herein constitute infringement of Plaintiff's copyright and exclusive rights under copyright in violation of Sections 106 and 501 of the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. §§ 106 and 501.

17. Upon information and belief, the foregoing acts of infringement by Defendants have been willful, intentional, and purposeful, in disregard of and indifference to Plaintiff's rights.

18. As a direct and proximate cause of the infringement by the Defendants of Plaintiff's copyright and exclusive rights under copyright, Plaintiff is entitled to damages and Defendants profits pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504(b) for the infringement.

19. Alternatively, Plaintiff is entitled to statutory damages up to \$150,000 per work infringed for Defendants willful infringement of the Photographs, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504(c).

20. Plaintiff further is entitled to its attorney's fees and full costs pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests judgment as follows:

1. That Defendants be adjudged to have infringed upon Plaintiff's copyrights in the Photographs in violation of 17 U.S.C §§ 106 and 501;
2. That Plaintiff be awarded either: a) Plaintiff's actual damages and Defendants profits, gains or advantages of any kind attributable to Defendants infringement of Plaintiff's Photographs; or b) alternatively, statutory damages of up to \$150,000 per copyrighted work infringed pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504;
3. That Defendants be required to account for all profits, income, receipts, or other benefits derived by Defendants as a result of its unlawful conduct;
4. That Plaintiff be awarded its costs, expenses and attorneys' fees pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505;

5. That Plaintiff be awarded pre-judgment interest; and
6. Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable in accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38(b).

Dated: Valley Stream, New York
September 23, 2019

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